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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR 15 October 1953

SUBJECT "Spinne" Decimeter Wave Net in East Germany

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. In early May 1953, [redacted] the Dienststelle des Stellvertreter Ruer Baugesen und Unterbringung (Construction Department of the Ministry of the Interior) that a sum of eight million Eastmarks was to be spent on the Spinn Project in 1953. Vouchers [redacted] indicated that execution of the project in 1953 involved work on a line between Cottbus and Frankfurt/Oder, and in the Dresden and Rostock areas. Prior to April, 400,000 Eastmarks had been spent. Steel parts and towers required for the project were manufactured by the VEB Stahlbau (Engineering Firm) in Wismar. 2

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At a conference held at the Construction Department of the Ministry of the Interior on 6 July, State Secretary Willi Mayer reproached Colonel Horst Praessler for having made many mistakes in the execution of the Spinn Project. However, Praessler pointed out that he had not been given the official designs for the project and that no translation of the Soviet plan had been made available to his office. It came to light that the only German engineer familiar with the Soviet orders was e. ineer Weibrauch (fnu), Captain Fischer (fnu) of the Ministry of the Interior, was in charge of construction work connected with the Spinn Project.

25X1 [redacted] Comment: This statement agrees with information obtained from a line diagram of the planned decimeter wave net. [redacted] According to referenced report, the Dresden-Hellerau-Halle line of the net was to have been completed by 1 April 1953. [redacted] the Dresden-Frankfurt/Oder line is to be completed in 1953 and work on the northern line to be started near Rostock.

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25X1 [redacted] Comment: It is believed that the VEB Stahlbau in Wismar will supply the material for the northern line of the net, while the antenna towers required for the southern line probably will be furnished by the VEB Stahlbau in Gossau or the VEB Thus.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Colonel Schneider was previously known as being the
 head of the Dienststelle des Stellvertreters fuer Bauwesen und
 Ingenieurwesen (military construction department). Engineer Wehrauch
 may be identical with Obermaurats Wehrauch, who is in charge of radi-
 engineering development of the Bureau fuer Wirtschaftsausruestung (Bureau
 for Economic Affairs). Captain Fischer is reported for the first time

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[REDACTED]